

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3886
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 0558

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: YO CSCE
SUBJ: NEUTRALS NON-ALIGNED CSCE MEETING

REF; BELGRADE 658

1. EMBOFFS MET FEB 7 WITH HEGNER (WHO LED SWISS DELEGATION)
AND RENK OF FEDERAL POL DEPT (FONOFF) TO OBTAIN SWISS VIEW OF
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BELGRADE MEETING REPORTED REFTEL.

2. SWISS GENERAL IMPRESSIONS APPARENTLY SUBSTANTIALLY SAME
AS AUSTRIANS. THEY COMMENTED, HOWEVER, ON WHAT APPEARED
TO THEM TO BE A DEGREE OF WARINESS AMONG THE EASTERN BLOC
DELEGATIONS VIS-A-VIS EACH OTHER, PROBABLY REFLECTING THOSE
DELEGATIONS' CONCERN LEST THEY APPEAR TO BE GETTING TOO

FAR OUT IN FRONT ON PARTICULAR POINTS. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY NOTICEABLE WITH THE YUGOSLAVS, WHO AS HOSTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO ASSUME A CERTAIN DEGREE OF LEADERSHIP AT THE MEETING. INSTEAD THE YUGOSLAVS INSISTED THAT THE CHAIRMANSHIP ROTATE "AFTER EVERY COFFEE BREAK," AND IN GENERAL WERE MARKEDLY SELF EFFACING. HEGNER ADDED THAT THE QUESTION OF ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION WITH EUROPEAN NEUTRALS DID NOT ARISE.

3. SWISS TOO NOTICED OBSESSION OF CYPRIOTS AND MALTESE DURING CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS WITH MEDITERRANEAN "SECURITY." WHICH THE MALTESE SEEMED TO EQUATE WITH NATO NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE MED. MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY WAS NOT COVERED DURING SESSIONS.

4. SWISS SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS PROCEED ACCORDING TO SUBJS COVERED IN FINAL ACT FROM BASKET ONE THROUGH THREE, BASKET IV (FOLLOW UP) AND MEDITERRANEAN WERE NOT DISCUSSED. DELEGATES EXPRESSED GENERAL INTEREST IN EARLY RECEIPT OF NATO COUNTRIES' VIEWS. THOUGH CHAIRMANSHIP ROTATED, SWISS WAS ONLY DELGATION THAT DID NOT PRESIDE; YUGOSLAVS CHAIRED ONLY OPENING SESSION. SWISS NOTED CONTUING UNCERTAINTY ABOUT LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT JUN 15 PREPCOM WHICH THEY DOUBED WOULD GO INTO AUG.

5. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION, HEGNER SAID RECENT INCREASE IN VISIBILITY OF SOV BLOC DISSIDENTS HAD NOT NOTICEABLY AFFECTED ATMOSPHERE AT BELGRADE. CONFIDENTIAL

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FHI: HE WENT ON TO VOLUNTEER THAT SWISS GOVT WAS FOLLOWING DISSIDENT ACTIVITY WITH GREAT INTEREST AND "OF COURSE" SHARED USG CONCERN IN THIS MATTER. END FYI.

6. IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH PRINCE HENRI OF LIECHTENSTEIN, WHO WAS HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATE TO THE CONFERENCE, WER WERE TOLD THAT THE FINNS AND THE YUGOSLAVS MADE AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE OTHER COUNTRIES REPRESENTED TO FOREGO ANY REVIEW OF BASKET III. THE RESPONSE WAS THAT PUBLIC OPINION IN THE OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD NOT PERMIT IT, AND THE FINNS DID NOT PURSUE THE MATTER. PRINCE HENRI SAID THE GNEERAL IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE SOVIETS PUT THE FINNS UP TO MAKING THE PROPOSAL AND THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD LIKE TO POSTPONE THE MEETING IF THEY COULD FIND A WAY TO DO SO, HOPING TO BUY TIME IN WHICH TO BRING THE DISSIDENTS UNDER SOME MEASURE OF CONTROL. ACCORDING TO PRINCE HENRI, THE SOVIETS SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT A POSTPONEMENT WOULD DISCOURAGE THE DISSIDENTS

AND CAUSE A REDUCTION IN THE INTENSITY OF THEIR
ACTIVITIES. DAVIS

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